

Applicant: BLUM, Ronald D. et al.  
Serial No.: 10/772,917  
Filed: February 5, 2004  
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### REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks of the above-identified application in

#### Status of Claims

Claims 6, 7, 18, 22, 25-27, and 34-36 have been amended. New Claims 39 and 40 have been added. Thus, Claims 1-40 are currently pending.

It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

#### Remarks to the Specification

In full accordance with the observations of the Examiner in the first paragraph of page 2 of the Office Action, the specification has been amended. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

#### Claim Rejections

##### 35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejections

With respect to the Examiner's comments on the second paragraph of page 2 of the Office Action, Claim 36 has been amended to include the limitations of Claim 1. It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claim 36 and Claims 37 and 38, dependent therefrom, fully comply with the requirements set forth in 35 U.S.C. §112 and that the rejection thereunder should consequently be withdrawn.

Claims 22 and 27 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's recommendation regarding Claim 22 in the Specification section on page 2 of the Office Action. Each of Claims 6, 7, 18, 25, 26, 34, and 35 have been amended to remove the recitations of "finely" or "fixed patter".

#### Allowable Subject Matter

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that Claims 1-35 are allowable and that Claim 36 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the aforementioned objections. It is respectfully submitted that since the rejection of Claims 36 is believed to be overcome,

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Claims 36 and Claims 37 and 38, dependent therefrom, are in condition for allowance. Passage to issue is therefore respectfully requested.

#### New Claims


New Claims 39 and 40 have been added to claim additional embodiments of the present invention. Claims 39 and 40 depend directly from Claims 1 and 22, respectively. It is thus respectfully submitted that Claims 39 and 40 are likewise allowable.

#### Conclusion

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to discuss any still outstanding matters with respect to the present application.

Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. 50-3355 if any fees are due.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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